

# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A summary of news, events, and other announcements for the week of January 24, 2022



## TOWN LAUNCHES NEW COVID-19 PAGE ON TOWN WEBSITE

The Town has created a new, COVID-19 page on the Town website to include updated data, vaccination information, testing nearby, and available resources for Dedham residents and taxpayers. Read more on page 3.

## BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – JANUARY 21, 2022

The Dedham Board of Health reports as of January 20, 2022, there have been a total of 4,584 total confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Dedham, and 270 new cases since the January 13, 2022. The full update is on page 4.



## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022

The Annual Town Election will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022. Read page 4 for open positions and the steps to take if you interested in running for a Town office.





## DOG LICENSES - APPLY NOW!

Annual dog licenses are **REQUIRED** for all dogs, six months of age or older, in Dedham. Read page 6 to learn more about licensing your dog here in Dedham.

## PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES

The Public Safety Building project team is continuing to enclose the building to continue the interior work throughout the winter season. Read what to expect this week on page 6.



## PUBLIC MEETINGS & UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

View this week's schedule, review posted agendas, and find out how to attend upcoming events and meetings on page 7.



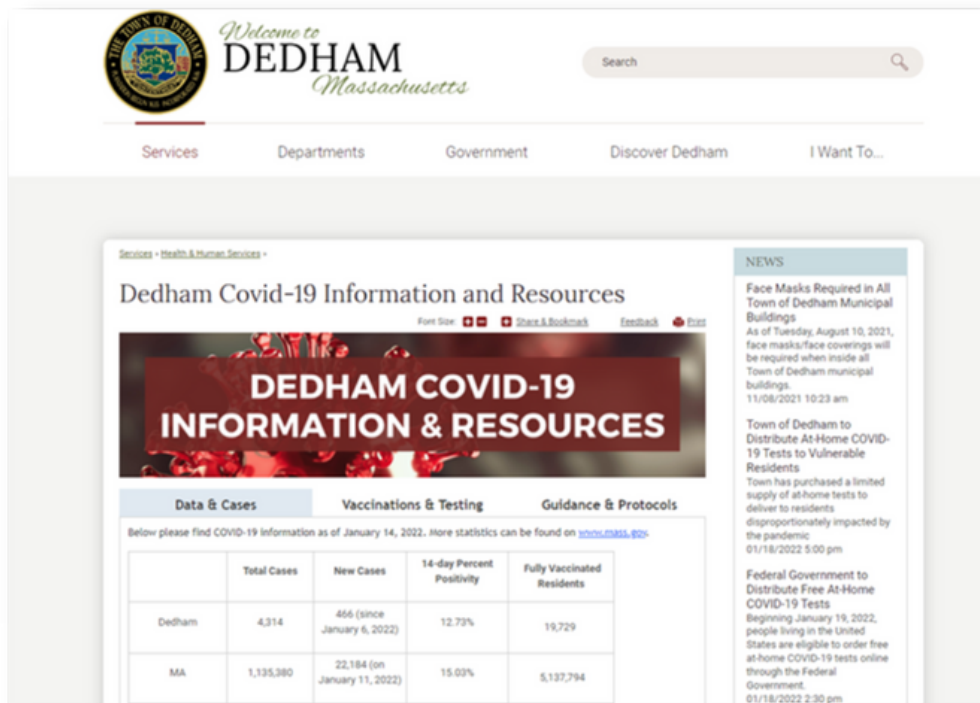
## TOWN LAUNCHES NEW COVID-19 PAGE ON TOWN WEBSITE

The Town of Dedham has created a new COVID-19 page on the Town website, [www.dedham-ma.gov/covid19](http://www.dedham-ma.gov/covid19), to display news updates, data, resources, and additional information specific to the Town of Dedham.

“In a continuing effort to centralize our information and to further develop our website as the authoritative resource for information related to the Town, we have moved our previous COVID-19 website and subscription list to our Town-owned website,” said Town Manager Leon Goodwin.

The new COVID-19 website includes a news feed to display all notifications and announcements for Dedham residents and visitors from the Town and the Health Department and includes a field to sign up to receive these notifications via email. Also included on this website are updated data, guidance and protocols from state and local agencies, and information regarding vaccinations and testing to ensure the public is kept up-to-date with the status of COVID-19 within this community and across the Commonwealth.

**Click on website screenshot below to enlarge**



Additional resources outlined on this page are separated into three categories: residents, businesses, and workforce. Available resources include the **Dedham COVID-19 Relief Fund**, health and wellness programs, small business resources and relief options, health insurance information, mentoring and technical assistance, employee rights, eviction protection, utilities, and more to help everyone find the help they need to respond to changes in their lives as a result of the pandemic. Resources are reviewed and updated periodically as new information becomes available.

The new Dedham COVID-19 website is available now at [www.dedham-ma.gov/covid19](http://www.dedham-ma.gov/covid19) and can be accessed by searching “COVID-19” in the search field on our homepage. The website is designed to be mobile-friendly and will adapt to fit your device.

Subscribe to receive email notifications on the new COVID-19 website or by visiting [www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe](http://www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe) to enter your email address and select “COVID-19” from the list of topics.



## BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE – JANUARY 21, 2022

Below please find COVID-19 information as of January 20, 2022. More statistics can be found on [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov).

	Total Cases	New Cases	14-day Percent Positivity	Fully Vaccinated Residents
Dedham	4,584	270 (since January 13, 2022)	19.51%	19,815
MA	1,389,830	14,647 (on January 18, 2022)	21.52%	5,163,898

NOTE: These numbers do not include the people who tested positive with at-home antigen tests.

### Federal Government Distributes Free At-Home COVID-19 Tests

People living in the United States are eligible to order free at-home COVID-19 tests online through the Federal Government. Each home can order four (4) free at-home tests. There are no shipping costs for the tests and payment information is not required to place an order. Tests will ship via First Class Mail approximately 7-12 days after ordering, through a partnership with the United States Postal Service. Each order includes four individual rapid antigen COVID-19 tests, and when ordering, you will be asked to provide the following information:

- Contact Information: First Name, Last Name, and Email Address (optional for shipping notifications)
- Shipping Address (Limit 1 order per residential address)

On January 14, 2022, the Federal Government **announced** the purchase of half a billion at-home tests to distribute to the public. In addition, the Federal Government will work with community organizations to distribute tests to high-risk communities and those hardest hit by the pandemic. Please visit [covidtests.gov](http://covidtests.gov) to order your tests.

As a reminder, private health insurance companies are now required to cover the cost of at-home COVID-19 test kits. The tests must be authorized, cleared, or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). A list of FDA-approved test kits can be found in **this update** on the Town's website. Contact your insurance provider for more information.

### COVID-19 Vaccine

Residents 5 years and older are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine and residents 12 years and older are eligible to get a COVID-19 booster. The Board encourages anyone who is eligible to get vaccinated. Vaccine appointments can be scheduled at [vaxfinder.mass.gov/](http://vaxfinder.mass.gov/).

## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022



The Annual Town Election will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2022. There will be no in-person early voting for the Town Election.

Before you head to the polls, make sure you are registered to vote by visiting the Secretary of State website at [www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx).

*continued on page 5*



## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION ON SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022 (CONTINUED)

To be eligible to register or pre-register to vote, you must be:

1. A United States citizen;
2. At least 16 years old\*; and
3. Not currently incarcerated by reason of a felony conviction

\*Preregistration at the age of at least 16 years old will place the individual on the voter registration list with a "pending" or "preregistration" status. The individual will be added to the voter registration list upon turning 18.

To register to vote, please use one of the following options:

- **Register Online:** Complete the **online registration** on the **Secretary of the Commonwealth's website**.
- **Register In Person:** Please visit the Town Clerk's office or the Secretary of the Commonwealth's office. Voter registration is also available as part of every transaction at the Registry of Motor Vehicles and at certain public assistance agencies. Voter registration forms completed in-person are valid as of the day that they are signed. A **voter registration form** can be downloaded online and submitted in-person, as well.
- **Register by Mail:** Please download, print, and complete the **voter registration form**. Follow the instructions on the form for submission to the Dedham Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall 450 Washington Street, 2nd Floor.

### Running for Town Office

Nomination papers are available at the Town Clerk's Office. Each interested candidate must file a written statement with the Town Clerk that includes name, address, and the position he/she/they intend to be a candidate. The **open positions on the April 9, 2022** ballot are listed below:

- Select Board (Two positions, 3-year terms)
- School Committee (Two positions, 3-year terms)
- Planning Board (One position, 5-year term)
- Parks and Recreation Commission (One position, 3-year term)
- Board of Library Trustees (Two positions, 3-year terms)
- Board of Assessors (Two positions, 1-year term and 3-year term)
- Board of Health (One position, 3-year term)
- Commissioners of Trust Funds (Two positions, 3-year terms)

Positions for Town Meeting Representatives will also be on the April 9, 2022 ballot, as follows:

- Precinct 1 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 2 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 3 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 4 (Not more than 13 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 4 (Not more than 1 position, 2-year term)
- Precinct 5 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 6 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)
- Precinct 7 (Not more than 39 positions, 3-year terms)

### Major Office:

Candidates for major office are required to have 50 signatures certified to appear on the ballot. All candidates are encouraged to obtain more than 50 signatures from registered voters, townwide.

### Incumbent Town Meeting Representatives:

Written notice to become candidates for re-election must be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 11, 2022 (Chapter 53, Section 10)**. Candidates running for Town Meeting Representative are required to have 10 signatures certified to appear on the ballot. All candidates are encouraged to obtain more than 10 signatures from registered voters from your voting precinct only.

### Deadline to Submit Papers:

Nomination papers must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022** for certification by the Board of Registrars who will do so by March 7, 2022.

## DOG LICENSES – APPLY NOW!

Annual dog licenses are REQUIRED for all dogs in Dedham, six months of age or older.

### Licensing Period:

The annual licensing period runs from January 1st of the calendar year to December 31 of that same year. All dogs MUST be licensed by April 30th. After May 1st, a late fee of \$25.00 will be added.

**NOTE:** A license will only be issued if the owner has evidence of a rabies vaccination, which is valid as of the date of issuance.

### Fees for licensing dogs:

Neutered/Spayed	\$10.00
Not Neutered/Spayed	\$15.00
Late fee if not licensed by May 1	\$25.00
Kennel License	Please call 781-751-9200

## PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING UPDATES

**What to expect January 24, 2022 (Monday) through January 28, 2022 (Friday):**

- The project site remains closed to the public.
- Installation of the stormwater infiltration system will continue this week.
- Installation of Stair #1 is underway.
- Last week, Eversource crews completed the final installation of new utility poles along Bryant Street. Line transfer crews will be onsite to relocate the overhead utility lines from the existing poles to the newly installed poles. The Fire Station will be provided with temporary power during this work to ensure operations remain uninterrupted.
- Roofers will continue to install the roof framing and parapet walls at the edges of the roof. Roof installation began last week on the high Police roof. Installation will continue this week.
- Crews will continue the installation of interior cold formed metal framing and the exterior air vapor barrier this week.
- Expect periodic entrance and exit of large trucks at the project site entrance, located at the intersection of Washington Street and Bryant Street. Please expect minor traffic delays at this intersection.
- No additional traffic impacts or pedestrian impacts are anticipated during this week.

*Click on the image below to enlarge*



**Caption:** Photo of the active construction site taken from the north entrance to Town Hall on Friday, January 21, 2022. Sections of the metal frame stairs are lined up along the bottom of the photo in preparation for installation.

### Project Team Contact Information:

- Immediate issues or concerns, please contact the Dedham Town Manager's Office at **781-751-9100**.
- For general questions or concerns, please contact the project team at **[psb@dedham-ma.gov](mailto:psb@dedham-ma.gov)**
- For more information about the Public Safety Building Project, please visit the project website at **[www.dedham-ma.gov/psb](http://www.dedham-ma.gov/psb)**
- Download our **[project team contact information flyer](#)** on the project website.



## PUBLIC MEETINGS & COMMUNITY EVENTS THIS WEEK

Agendas and event information are linked below. Meeting information is also available on our website calendar



### Wednesday, 1/26/22:

- **Planning Board** at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **School Committee - State of the Schools** at 7:00 p.m. at the Avery Elementary School

### Thursday, 1/27/22:

- **Thursday Afternoon at the Movies!** at 1:00 p.m. at the Ames Senior Center playing "The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel"

Events shown as listed on the Town calendar as of 1/24/22. Don't forget to check out the **Dedham Public Library events calendar** and the **Dedham Public Schools calendar!**

## LET'S STAY CONNECTED!



Sign up to receive news, updates, and other announcements, delivered right to your inbox from the Town of Dedham on our website. The best part is, you can select the topics you are interested in and update this information at any time!

### Follow Us!

For general news and updates on behalf of the Town, follow us on **Twitter**, **Facebook**, and **Instagram**, username @DedhamThrives.

Departments across Town have set up social media accounts to share information, as well as post about exciting news around Town. Visit our **Social Media** page to find the accounts you want to follow!



Sign up for **CodeRED notifications** to receive emergency notifications and other alerts released by the Town, such as snow emergencies, road closures, or public safety alerts directly to your landline or mobile device. (Please note: CodeRED is used sparingly.)